Arkansas Commission on Closing the Academic Achievement Gap

The Commission on Closing the Achievement Gap was established by the Arkansas State Legislature, under Act 33 during the Secondary Extraordinary Session of 2003.

Minutes September 21, 2017 Arkansas Department of Education Room 303-A 1:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Darin Beckwith, Chair; Dr. Mary Brentley, Lillian Williams, Matti P. Collins, and Kristin Whitsett

Members Absent:

Dr. Valerie Tatum and Nathaniel Todd

Meeting Location:

Arkansas Department of Education #4 Capitol Mall, Room 303-A Little Rock, AR 72201

Welcome/Call to Order:

Darin Beck called the meeting to order at 1:40

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the April 28, 2017, presented and approved. Moved by Dr. Brentley, seconded by Lillian Williams. Motion Carries.

Opening Comments:

Mr. Beckwith presented the need for additional members and working on moving the committee to forward with goals and objectives. Mr. Beckwith suggested seeing if Dr. Mike Hernandez would be interested in serving.

Approval of 2016 Arkansas Commissioner on Closing the Academic Achievement Gap:

Mr. Beckwith presented the 2016 Commission Report to the commission to present to the State Board of Education in October 2017. Dr. Brentley moved to accepted the report, Mrs. Whitsell seconded. Motion Carried.

Discussion of Board Member:

Mr. Beckwith recommended as members are added that the committee start looking at getting involved in subcommittees to dive deeper in the strategies and school visits. Discussion was taking the reports and putting them in the hands of those needing the information.

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Upcoming meetings:

October 12, 2017 – State Board Meeting November 16, 2017 – 1:00 January 18, 2018 – 1:00 February 15, 2018 – 1:00 March 15, 2018 – 1:00 April 19, 2018 – 1:00 May 17, 2018 – 1:00

New Business:

Next Meeting:

The committee recommended the meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of every month. The next meet is scheduled for October 12, 2017, at the State Board of Education.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Darin Beckwith, Chair